

## State of Utah Department of Commerce

## Division of Securities

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## **MEDIA ALERT**

Securities enters Order against Fake Commodities Broker for Securities Fraud "Kevin Warner took \$521K from 12 investors through six company investment scams" (For immediate release...)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – The Division of Securities announced today that an Order to Show Cause has been issued against Kevin L. Warner and his related companies; SCI Partners, LLC, Strategic Traders, LLC, Strategic Investors, LLC, Pro Traders Club, LLC, Go 2 Investments, LLC, and Kevin L. Warner, LLC. The Division alleges Warner took money from 12 Utah investors in Davis and Weber Counties for various fake commodities offers. The Division is seeking an Order requiring Warner and the six related companies to cease and desist from offering securities and to pay administrative fines totaling \$1,040,000.00.

According to the investigation, Warner solicited 12 investors between January 2003 and March 2006. Among his false claims, investors were told that Kevin Warner was licensed to trade commodities, he had a "corner" on the grain commodities market, he had proven that he could make money based on "dummy trades", and that he wrote a book on commodity trading based on "historicals" which was part of his business success. The 12 Utah victims were told they would make money through commodities trading with the promise of a guaranteed return on their money. Warner told some of them these investments had "no risk". In many cases Kevin Warner spent the investors' money on personal bills and used it to pay off previous investors.

The Division alleges that Warner failed to disclose to investors that he did not hold a current commodities license, his commodities trades were losing money, he filed bankruptcy in May 2005, he faced prior tax liens and civil judgments, and that prior investors had frozen Warner's trading accounts and retained attorneys to recover their investments. Kevin Warner also is accused of sending false account statements to the investors, giving bogus refund checks, and operating a "Ponzi" scheme by using money from new investors to repay old investors.

A hearing is scheduled on October 15, 2007 to determine whether Kevin Warner and his six related companies dispute the Division of Securities' allegations.

Investors are urged to contact the Division of Securities to make sure anyone offering investments is licensed, by calling (801) 530.6600, toll free at 1.800.721.7233 or logging on to <a href="https://www.securities.utah.gov">www.securities.utah.gov</a>.

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